

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 120393  
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02  
A-01 PRS-01 /035 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:WHLUERS:JN

APPROVED BY ARA:WHLUERS

D : L. PASCOE

-----250306Z 031785 /70

O 250242Z MAY 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120393

FOR THE CHARGE FROM LUERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FREI), CI

SUBJECT: EX-PRESIDENT FREI TO SEE VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE

1. FREI WILL CALL ON VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 25. THE CALL IS AT THE REQUEST OF FREI WHO SOUGHT ORIGINALLY TO SEE THE PRESIDENT. WE HAVE RECOMMENDED LOW-KEY PRESS HANDLING, STRESS ON FREI AS HEMISPHERIC DEMOCRATIC LEADER, AND MINIMAL DISCUSSION OF CHILE.

2. DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER WILL SEE AMBASSADOR CAUAS ON THURSDAY TO PROVIDE A RUNDOWN ON U.S.-CHILEAN RELATIONS OUTLINING STEPS THE CHILEANS MIGHT TAKE TO IMPROVE THESE RELATIONS.

3. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY WILL RECEIVE CHILEAN SOCIALIST LEADER ALMEYDA ON FRIDAY, MAY 27. ALMEYDA HAD REQUESTED TO SEE A HIGH LEVEL U.S. OFFICIAL.

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4. LUERS INFORMED AMBASSADOR CAUAS EVENING OF MAY 24 OF THESE THREE APPOINTMENTS. CONVERSATION WITH CAUAS WAS

SOBER AND RESERVED IN TONE. WHILE THE FREI VISIT CAUSED HIM CONCERN, THE NEWS OF THE ALMEYDA VISIT AT VIRTUALLY THE SAME TIME CAUSED HIM EVEN GREATER CON-

STERNATION. CAUAS SAID WHILE HE COULD UNDERSTAND USG INTEREST IN DEALING WITH GOVERNMENTS OF MANY POLITICAL PERSUASIONS, HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND USEFULNESS OF RECEIVING TWO MAJOR GOC OPPONENTS EVEN IN TERMS OF WHAT HE PERCEIVED TO BE USG INTERESTS. CAUAS BELIEVES PRESS TREATMENT OF FREI VISIT WILL UNDERSCORE THE CURRENT CRITICISM OF THE GOC AND GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE USG IS DRAWING CLOSER TO THE JUNTA'S POLITICAL OPPONENTS.

5. LUERS EMPHASIZED THAT RECEIVING FREI AND ALMEYDA, AT THEIR REQUEST, REFLECTS USG INTEREST IN DEALING WITH POLITICAL LEADERS ACROSS THE SPECTRUM. IN NO SENSE DOES IT MEAN OR IMPLY ANY LESSENING OF OUR INTEREST IN SEEKING WAYS TO DEAL WITH THE PINOCHET REGIME, LEAST OF ALL ANY IDEA THAT THE USG HAS ANY INTEREST WHATSOEVER IN THE OVERTHROW OF THE JUNTA. LUERS SAID THAT THE INTENTION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT PINOCHET WAS CLEARLY EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR CAUAS BY PRESIDENT CARTER IN THE CREDENTIALS CEREMONY. FREI IS A HEMISPHERIC DEMOCRATIC LEADER, AND ALMEYDA IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT FIGURE REPRESENTING A DIFFERENT POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW. LUERS STRESSED THAT THE USG WILL ISSUE NO PRESS STATEMENT ON THE MONDALE-FREI MEETING. HOWEVER, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE PRESS WILL MOST LIKELY QUESTION BOTH THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE DEPARTMENT. LUERS CONTINUED THAT WE HAD RECOMMENDED LOW KEY PRESS TREATMENT FOR THE FREI VISIT (AND SIMILAR LOW KEY TREATMENT FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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ALMEYDA). VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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